

By-Cycle

Bicycle News from the
Maricopa County Department of Transportation



July 2000

Volume 1:7

MCDOT Bike Plan Honored by NACo

The Maricopa County Department of Transportation has received three awards from the National Association of Counties (NACo). Annually NACo presents achievement awards for county programs and projects that promote responsible, responsive, and effective county government. The 1999 MCDOT Bicycle Transportation System Plan was recognized in the transportation category for its effective implementation of the County BEECN Program. The principal planner and author of the plan was Aaron Iverson.

MCDOT also received a NACo 2000 Achievement Award for Desert Harvest for Humanity, a program that transplants desert cacti and plants from road construction areas.

The third NACo 2000 Award was for the Entente Program, a joint endeavor with the Yuma County Department of Public Works. The program specifically benefits border areas between the counties or municipalities where road maintenance could be most effectively done by the other party due to scheduled work within the area or when an emergency roadway situation occurs.

The details for the Bike Plan award are as follows: Maricopa County, in its efforts to provide sound planning in a cost-effective manner, began the process of completing a bicycle system plan. Going through the traditional contracting processes, staff found

Meetings

July 2000

Public Meeting Schedule

The public meeting schedule is subject to change. Please call to confirm dates and times. For on-line information go to:

www.maricopa.gov/

7.11.2000

Bicycle Advisory Committee

MCDOT Bicycle Advisory Committee

Location: MCDOT Maricopa Room
2901 W. Durango
Phoenix, AZ

Time: 2:30 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Contact: Reed Kempton, 602-506-1630

7.12.2000

Comprehensive Plan Workshop

Location: Gila Bend School Cafeteria
308 N. Martin
Gila Bend, AZ

Time: 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Contact: Matthew Holm, 602-506-7162

7.19.2000

Power Road Bridge

@ Queen Creek Wash

Location: Queen Creek Elementary School
23636 S. 204th Street
Queen Creek, AZ

Time: 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Contact: Andy Wojakiewicz, 602-506-8625
or Tom Sonnemann 602-506-4880



that the consulting firms could not bring the project in for the budget allotted. Motivated staff, using the Benchmarking, Effectiveness, Efficiency, the County Norm System (BEECN) proposed to complete this project in house. BEECN provides staff with the needed tools, resources, and training to complete a variety of tasks using innovative methods.

In this case, County staff completed a work plan to complete this project in-house based on the original scope that included a schedule, budget, and action plan. Staff tracked their time throughout the planning process and provided department management with regular updates so that there was a fair comparison to the original proposal. This project was completed in-house for roughly \$100,000 less than had been proposed by the lowest bidder. MCDOT staff, given the opportunity to show their strengths and commitments completed a complex planning exercise and produces a quality project recognized by their peers using the tools supplied through BEECN.

The Bicycle Systems Plan BEECN Results Project truly illustrates innovation in county government. The project was completed in a cost-effective manner, improved constituent service, and facilitated effective use of public tax dollars.



The Right System The Right Time The Right Cost

MCDOT

Bicycle Web Page

www.mcdot.maricopa.gov/Bicycle/index.htm

July 2000

Public Meeting Schedule Continued

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7.19.2000

Comprehensive Plan Workshop

Location: Estrella Community College
3000 N. Dysart
Avondale, AZ
Time: 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Contact: Matthew Holm, 602-506-7162

7.26.2000

Comprehensive Plan Workshop

Location: Ruth Fisher Elementary School
38201 W. Indian School Road
Tonopah, AZ
Time: 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Contact: Matthew Holm, 602-506-7162

7.31.2000

Comprehensive Plan Workshop

Location: Hassayampa Elementary School
Library
251 S. Tegner Street
Wickenburg, AZ
Time: 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Contact: Matthew Holm, 602-506-7162

AASHTO

Bicycle Guide Popular

Velo Mondial, Amsterdam:

John Horsley, Executive Director of AASHTO, was a panelist in a "hypothetical" discussion of possible futures for the bicycle. He noted that "bicycling (bicyclists) were not a nuisance any more but a constituency to be reckoned with." He announced that AASHTO has sold 5,500 copies of the bicycle guide compared to just 1,100 copies of the "Green Book."

For your copy of the 1999 Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, log on to the AASHTO web site at www.aashto.org/ and enter the bookstore.

BTS Releases Report on Bicycle and Pedestrian Data

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) has released a new report, Bicycle and Pedestrian Data: Sources, Needs, and Gaps.

This report provides a review of existing sources of bicycle and pedestrian-related information, including their uses, quality, and limitations. It also includes information from a broad range of decision-makers, researchers, planners, and other users identifying and prioritizing areas in which additional or improved data are needed. By recommending opportunities for improving the quality and relevancy of bicycle and pedestrian data, this report is designed to help determine what actions to take to overcome the deficiencies and limitations of existing data sources.

The report can be found at <http://www.bts.gov/programs/transtu/bikeped/report.pdf>

MCDOT Hosts Workshop

On June 12, MCDOT Transportation Planning Division hosted a bicycle facility design workshop for local consultants, engineers, and planners. Mia Birk, Senior Associate for Alto Transportation Consulting in Portland, Oregon and Mathew Zoll, Principal Planner with Curtis Lueck & Associates in Tucson, Arizona were the speakers.

More than 40 transportation professionals were given information on recent changes to the AASHTO design guidelines and the proposed changes to the MUTCD. The workshop was provided at no charge to the attendees and completed one of the success benchmarks identified in the MCDOT bicycle plan.



County citizens enjoying a summer evening along the Salt River.

On your left!

Now that I am finally a professional planner (I graduated last month), and am working full-time (I really miss those three-day workweeks), it is time to look at life as an adult and start looking forward to retirement (quitting time is at 5, right?).

My new official title is now Bicycle / Multi-Modal Planner. There are many things happening in the next several months with trails, road projects, and educational programs. Projects are being submitted for federal funding and we're working on a new bike project scoring system. I'll keep you posted.

If you have a question about bicycling in Maricopa County, send a message to reedkempston@mail.maricopa.gov.

Reed